

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

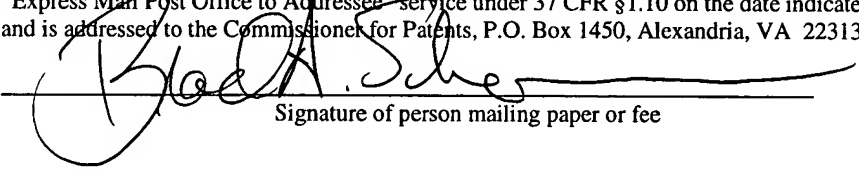
In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner
Ricardo Sasso)	(unknown)
)	
Serial No. New)	Group Art Unit (unknown)
)	
Filed July 8, 2003)	July 8, 2003
)	
INSTRUMENTATION AND METHOD)	Ref. No. 3076-4
FOR PERFORMING IMAGE-GUIDED)	
SPINAL SURGERY USING AN)	
ANTERIOR SURGICAL APPROACH)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents and publications listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement. This information has not been previously submitted in this application, and has not been heretofore cited by the Examiner. Copies of cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

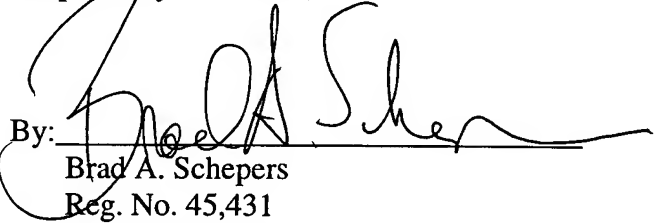
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Information Disclosure Statement
INSTRUMENTATION AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING
IMAGE-GUIDED SPINAL SURGERY USING AN ANTERIOR
SURGICAL APPROACH
Filed July 8, 2003
Inventor: Ricardo Sasso
Page 1 of 2

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be prior art or material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(b) before the occurrence of one or more of the following: (a) receipt of a First Office Action on the merits, (b) passage of three (3) months from the application filing date, or passage of three (3) months from the date entry of the national stage. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due. However, should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	New
Filing Date	July 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Ricardo Sasso
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	3076-4

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	5,300,076	04/05/1994	Leriche	
	2	5,562,738	10/08/1996	Boyd et al.	
	3	6,069,932	05/30/2000	Peshkin et al.	
	4	6,167,145	12/26/2000	Foley et al.	
	5	6,201,984	03/13/2001	Funda et al.	
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	7	6,236,875	05/22/2001	Bucholz et al.	
	8	6,282,437	08/28/2001	Franck et al.	
	9	6,285,902	09/04/2001	Kienzle, III et al.	
	10	6,287,313	09/11/2001	Sasso	
	11	6,314,310	11/06/2001	Ben-Haim et al.	
	12	6,327,491	12/04/2001	Franklin et al.	
	13	6,340,363	01/22/2002	Bolger et al.	
	14	6,346,123	02/12/2002	McKay	
	15	6,348,058	02/19/2002	Melkent et al.	
	16	6,375,655	04/23/2002	Zdeblick et al.	

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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